

**Re: Discrete and Diffuse****Eric Borton** to: Benson.Bob

09/02/2010 09:44 AM

From: Eric Borton &lt;eric.borton@uc.edu&gt;

To:

Cc: "Lockey, James (lockeyje)" &lt;lockeyje@UCMAIL.UC.EDU&gt;, "Hilbert, Timothy (hilbertj)" &lt;HILBERTJ@UCMAIL.UC.EDU&gt;

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In re-reading the EPA response again, I wanted to make sure everything was clear. In the last spread sheet, you will notice there is no one with a discrete AND diffuse. They are either classified as either discrete or diffuse. So by default, there will not be an instance where someone will have discrete, diffuse and interstitial. They will fall into one of the following categories:

discrete pleural (n=64)  
diffuse pleural (n=10)  
discrete and interstitial (n=4)  
diffuse and interstitial (n=2)  
Total Pleural Cases = 64 + 10 + 4 + 2 = 80  
interstitial only = 2  
Total Interstitial Cases = 4 + 2 + 2 = 8

I think the confusion may arise in the word "both" in the Roh 2008 paper.

"6 had both pleural thickening (4 localized and 2 diffuse) with interstitial changes." I think omitting the word "both" may be more clear.

> On 9/1/2010 5:22 PM, Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

>> I think I got it now. I have been misinterpreting the original spreadsheet for 3 years.

>>

>> I need a spreadsheet that matches the wording you quoted from the Rohs

>> paper.

>>

>> If a person had a discrete pleural change, the row should have a 1. If  
>> the person had a discrete pleural change and a diffuse pleural change,  
>> both rows have a 1. If a person had all three effects, all 3 rows have  
>> a 1.  
>>  
>> The discrete column should total 68; the diffuse column should total 12;  
>> and the interstitial column should total 8 using all 280 people.  
>>  
>> I am out of the office for the rest of the week. I will return on  
>> Tuesday, Sept 7.  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>> From: Eric Borton<eric.borton@uc.edu>  
>> To: Bob Benson/R8/USEPA/US@EPA  
>> Cc: "Lockey, James (lockeyje)"<lockeyje@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>,  
>> "Hilbert, Timothy (hilbertj)"<HILBERTJ@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>  
>> Date: 09/01/2010 01:31 PM  
>> Subject: Re: Discrete and Diffuse  
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>>  
>> There were 80 participants with pleural changes but not necessarily all  
>> discrete.  
>>  
>> The Rohs 2008 paper states, "Of the participants with pleural changes,  
>> 64 had localized pleural thickening only, 10 had diffuse pleural  
>> thickening only, and 6 had both pleural thickening (4 localized and 2  
>> diffuse) with interstitial changes."  
>>  
>> From the statement it is clear there are 68 (64+4) localized (discrete)  
>>  
>> cases and 12 (10+2) diffuse cases. The original spread sheets dated

>> 7/8/2007, which you sent to me, has a column that reads "Pleural Cases"

>> which does equal 80. There is no column that says "Discrete Pleural".

>>

>> A "Discrete Pleural" column was introduced in the latest spreadsheet

>> since it was requested to add the word "Discrete" to the column that

>> said "Pleural Cases". This reduced the number in the original "Pleural

>> Case" column from 80 to 68 since "Discrete Pleural" is not the same as

>> "Pleural Cases". Again, in the latest spread sheet, the number of

>> "Discrete Cases" plus the number of "Diffuse Cases" does equal 80.

>>

>>

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>> On 9/1/2010 1:26 PM, Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

>>> It was my understanding from previous conversations with Jim that an

>>> individual could have both discrete and diffuse pleural thickening.

>>> Hence, I believe the original spread sheets are correct.

Discrete

>>> pleural = 80 and diffuse pleural = 12. We need to clarify.

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